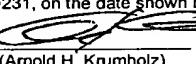


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 17, 2003 Signature: 
(Arnold H. Krumholz)

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Docket No.: MTI 1320-025
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Govil et al.

Application No.: 08/883,075 : Group Art Unit: 1617

Filed: June 26, 1997 : Examiner: E. Webman

For: ADHESIVE MIXTURE FOR TRANSDERMAL
DELIVERY OF HIGHLY PLASTICIZING
DRUGS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the official action mailed October 22, 2003, in which claims 84 and 86-92 were rejected. The sole remaining rejection in this case is based on the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 65-80 of co-pending application No. 09/754,909.

Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is entirely inappropriate, and that this application is clearly in condition for allowance in its present form, and such action is therefore respectfully solicited.

REMARKS

In order to demonstrate the impropriety of the outstanding rejection in this case, the Examiner's attention is directed to the official action dated November 27, 1998, which constituted a restriction requirement in which the Examiner contended that there were seven different inventions set forth